



IPSWICH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

15 Elm Street
IPSWICH, MASSACHUSETTS 01938



Lieutenant Jonathan Hubbard
Emergency Management Director

(O) – 978-356-4343
(F) – 978-356-6625

Tropical Storm Henri Briefing #1
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Situation:

Tropical Storm Henri is currently located off the coast of Florida and is moving WNW at 9mph. It is forecasted that later today Henri will turn NW and the N tonight. Henri is forecasted to speed up and move Northly approaching New England sometime in the afternoon on Sunday into early Monday.

Currently the storm has winds of 65mph but is forecasted to become a minimal Cat 1 Hurricane by Saturday.

There are no watches or warnings yet for our area but those should be extended sometime today.

Expected Weather:

Sunday Rain showers may start as early as 10am and continue through early Monday morning. The total rainfall amount will be 1-3” depending on the banding of the rain and the exact track of the storm.

Henri may make landfall as a weak Cat 1 Hurricane by will weaken quickly. The current track from the NWS puts us West of the Center of the storm with the center just East of Worcester around 2am as a Tropical Storm with 60mph max winds. The West or right side of the storm is the area where the higher winds are located. At the time it reaches us it will have winds between 53 and 60mph. The probabilities issued by the NWS for wind in our area is about 56% likely to receive winds in the Tropical Storm minimum threshold of 39MPH 20% for 58mph or greater and 5% for 74mph or greater. The winds should be at their peak between Sunday August 22 around 11pm through Monday at 2pm. It should be notated that the storm will slow when it heads inland and take around 12 hours to go from the Worcester area to the Portsmouth, NH area. That should give us a longer period of some strong winds.

Coastal Flooding:

I am still awaiting the modeling for the storm surge for this storm, but with a prolonged NNE-NE wind the water could start piling up. There will be large swells off shore which also tends to push water in.

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Tides of concern:

Date	Time	Height
8/23	0024	10.1
8/23	1254	9.0
8/24	0111	9.9

The tides are high but not as high as high as they could be. Depending on how long the storm sits could make this a multiple high tide issue.

Marine Forecast

Seas will start building 2-3ft on Saturday Night. Seas will increase to 4-7 feet early afternoon on Sunday. No forecast wave heights yet during the storm but I would imagine 10-15 off shore would be expected. In the bay and mooring fields 4-6 foot waves should be expected with large swells coming over the bar at high tide.

Problem areas

Areas of major concern:

Jeffrey's Neck Road-Possible Flooding on the 8/23 Midnight tide and again on the daytime tide. The daytime tide is a foot lower so depending on the added push of water combined with the previous tide lack of runout due to winds could actually be worse. This needs to be monitored. If the storm tracks to far inland the storm surge may be minimal and we could be ok. Storm surge is caused by wind but also the speed and direction of the storm. If it makes landfall in Rhode Island and tracks to Worcester then this would be helpful for us in the storm surge area. More information will be provided when we have the modeling.

Wind: This storm will produce winds like our winter Nor'Easters. The main difference is we have leaves on the trees which create more resistance to the winds. We should expect some tree damage due to the winds.

Rain-Being on the Western side of the track the rain will be less but we will experience bands of heavy intense rain with the possibility of a severe thunderstorm or a tornado.

Mooring areas-Notice will be sent to mariners regarding the storm and its impacts to the local waterways.

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- Staffing Levels

The Storm looks like it will begin to impact us on Sunday evening with the worst coming early Monday morning and during the daylight hours.

Having crews on standby for late Sunday early Monday or even pre-positioning crews should be considered.

The Marine Patrol will not be responding to calls after 10pm on Sunday and will not respond until the winds have died down enough to allow for safe operations within the limits of the vessel.